

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please add the following Abstract, at the end of the specification, after the claims
(new page 37):

432 - Methods are provided for preventing the development of autoimmune diseases in susceptible subjects and for prolonging acceptance of tissue transplants by administration of an agonist of the T cell CD28 co-stimulatory receptor.

A separate sheet containing the Abstract is attached.

REMARKS

Claims 1-6, 8, and 9 are presently under examination. Claims 7 and 10-31 were previously withdrawn in response to a restriction requirement. Reexamination and reconsideration of claims 1-6, 8, and 9 is respectfully requested.

Applicant uses the paragraph numbering in the Office Action (Paper Number 10) in responding to the Examiner's remarks.

Priority

¶3. Page 1 of the specification has been amended to clarify the priority claim. Applicant provides herewith an Application Data Sheet under 37 C.F.R. §1.76, which also contains the priority information.

Title

¶5. The title has been amended to more accurately reflect the claimed invention.

Abstract

¶6. An abstract is provided herewith on a separate sheet, in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.72(b).

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112

¶10. Claims 1-6, 8, and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, on the grounds that while the specification enables a method for preventing the development of autoimmune diabetes in the NOD mouse, it allegedly does not provide enablement for a method for preventing development of other autoimmune diseases.

The Examiner argues that different autoimmune diseases involve distinct antigens.

The inventor has shown that treatment of NOD mice with an agonist anti-CD28 antibody effectively prevented the development of diabetes in these mice. The inventor also showed that treatment of the mice with the agonist anti-CD28 antibody caused augmented secretion of the